Yakima River / Hanford Reach Salmon Reports and Ringold Steelhead Reports

Lower Yakima River Salmon Fishery

To date 3,852 adult spring chinook and 639 jacks have been counted passing upstream through the Prosser fish ladders. Only 29% of the adult return has been hatchery origin to date. Daily passage through the Prosser fish ladders dropped to below chinook per day on average. Flows in the lower Yakima River averaged 2,503cfs, range 2,050 – 3,290cfs.

WDFW staff interviewed 142 anglers fishing in the lower Yakima River (Prosser to Richland) this past week; 3 salmon anglers were interviewed with no fish harvested. To date this season an estimated 10 wild jacks were released and 4 hatchery jacks have been harvested. No adult chinook have been caught this season.

Anglers were primarily fishing for smallmouth bass. The 85 bass anglers interviewed harvested 114 fish and released 68, averaging 1.4 bass per hour. From May 30 through June 5 an estimated 2,025 smallmouth bass were caught and 1,123 were harvested in the lower river. Bank angling for channel catfish during the daylight has improved with 41 catfish being caught during the week. Based on the current data over 25,000 smallmouth bass have been caught and over 21,000 harvested in the Yakima River this spring. The data is preliminary. Final estimates will be calculated at the close of the salmon fishery.

Target	Anglers	Hours	Bass		C. Catfish		Hours/Fish	
			Catch	Harvest	Catch	Harvest	Bass	Catfish
Any	12	7	16	0	4	0		1.7
Catfish	42	74	8	8	36	35	9.3	2.1
Bass	85	129	182	114	1	0	0.7	129.1
Total	139	210	206	122	41	35	1.0	5.1